

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

August 20, 1998

S. 1419 Miccosukee Reserved Area Act

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on July 29,1998

S. 1419 would clarify the rights of the Miccosukee tribe of Indians to occupy and use land within the boundaries of the Everglades National Park. The bill would give the tribe the exclusive right to use and develop an area of the park to be known as the Miccosukee Reserved Area (MRA) and would terminate the special use permit that currently governs the tribe's use of this area. The tribe would be responsible for complying with environmental and other laws, certain development restrictions, commercial restrictions, such as a prohibition against gaming on MRA lands, and other conditions established by the bill.

CBO estimates enacting S. 1419 would have no effect on the federal budget. The bill would restate an agreement between the federal government and the Miccosukee Indian Tribe. It also would provide for compensation to the Miccosukee for water restoration projects in the Florida Everglades. Because both the projects and compensation are authorized under existing law, the bill would have no budgetary impact. S. 1419 would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

On August 17, 1998, CBO prepared a cost estimate for H.R. 3055, the Miccosukee Reserved Area Act, as ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on July 22, 1998. The House and Senate bills are similar, and the estimates are identical.

The CBO staff contact is Deborah Reis. This estimate was approved by Paul N. Van de Water, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.